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BLM Seeks Public Comment on Proposed Communication Site Near Castle Valley

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Moab, Utah—The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Utah Moab Field Office is seeking public input on a communication site proposal that would provide internet service to Castle Valley. The communication site is located near Castle Valley and would require use of an existing access road. The site would include a 15-foot tall tower, a solar panel, and equipment panel.

Following the public scoping period the BLM will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) to analyze potential impacts associated with the proposed project. The public is encouraged to provide comments to help the BLM identify relevant issues that will influence the scope of the analysis and guide the development process for the EA. The BLM will provide an additional opportunity for public review and comment on the draft EA.

More information, including a brief project description, location maps, and example photos of the equipment are available on the ePlanning website using the following link: Castle Valley Communications Site.

Alternately, you can access the main <u>ePlanning</u> website (<u>https://www.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/nepa/nepa_register.do)</u> and use the text search feature. Navigate to the website identified below and click on "text search," then "advanced search," and enter the exact project name "Castle Valley Communication Site" in the "Project Name" field.

Comments may be submitted electronically through the <u>ePlanning</u> website or submitted by mail to the BLM office. To submit comments electronically, open the project webpage and click on "Documents" in the left hand menu. Select the "Comment on Document" button to provide a comment. Written comments may be mailed to the address below:

Bureau of Land Management Moab Field Office Attn: Castle Valley Communication Site 82 East Dogwood Moab, Utah 84532 Comments will be accepted throughout the public scoping period, which closes February 29, 2016. Please note that the most useful comments are those that identify issues relevant to the proposed action. Comments which contain only opinions or preferences will not receive a formal response but may be considered in the BLM planning process.

Before including an address, phone number, email address or other personal identifying information in any comments, be aware that the entire comment—including personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. Requests to withhold personal identifying information from public review can be submitted, but the BLM cannot guarantee that it will be able to do so.

For additional information, please contact Jan Denney at (435) 259-2100. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to leave a message or question with the above individual. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Replies are provided during normal business hours.

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land, the most of any federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's mission is to manage and conserve the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations under our mandate of multiple-use and sustained yield. In fiscal year 2014, the BLM generated \$5.2 billion in receipts from public lands.

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